

Remarks

The above Amendments and these Remarks are in reply to the outstanding Office Action.

Claims 48 and 55-57 are allowed.

The Applicants' attorney filed an Electronic Information Disclosure Statement on July 20, 2004. The Examiner is respectfully requested to review the cited art and return initialed copies of the Statements.

Filed concurrently herewith is an Electronic Information Disclosure Statement (IDS). The IDS contains references cited in related applications. The Examiner is respectfully requested to review the cited art and return initialed copies of the IDS.

I. Rejection of Claims 1-9, 12-17, 25-27, 29-31, 39-47, 50, 52-54 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-9, 12-17, 25-27, 29-31, 39-47, 50, 52-54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Publication No. 2002/0068559A1 ("*Sharma et al.*") in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0069037 ("*Hendrickson et al.*").

While applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's rejection on these grounds, in order to expedite issuance of a patent on the allowed claims, claims 1-9, 12-17, 25-27, 29-31, 39-47, 50, 52-54 have been canceled from the application.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1-9, 12-17, 25-27, 29-31, 39-47, 50, 52-54 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

II. Rejection of Claims 3 and 44-45 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 3 and 44-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Sharma et al.*, *Hendrickson et al.* further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,343,276 ("*Barnett*").

While applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's rejection on these grounds, in order to expedite issuance of a patent on the allowed claims, claims 3 and 44-45 have been canceled from the application.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 3 and 44-45 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

III. Rejection of Claim 10 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Sharma et al.*, *Hendrickson et al.* further in view of *Barnett*.

While applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's rejection on these grounds, in order to expedite issuance of a patent on the allowed claims, claim 10 has been canceled from the application.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

IV. Rejection of Claims 18-24, 32-37 and 51 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 18-24, 32-37 and 51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Sharma et al.*, *Hendrickson et al.* further in view of U.S. Publication No. 2003-0050058 ("*Walsh et al.*").

While applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's rejection on these grounds, in order to expedite issuance of a patent on the allowed claims, claims 18-24, 32-37 and 51 have been canceled from the application.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 18-24, 32-37 and 51 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

V. Rejection of Claim 49 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claim 49 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Sharma et al.* in view of *Walsh et al.*

While applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's rejection on these grounds, in order to expedite issuance of a patent on the allowed claims, claim 49 has been canceled from the application.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claim 49 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

VI. Rejection of Claim 58 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claim 58 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Sharma et al.*, *Walsh et al.* further in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002-0058502 ("*Stanforth*").

While applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's rejection on these grounds, in order to expedite issuance of a patent on the allowed claims, claim 58 has been canceled from the application.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested, that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claim 58 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

VII. Art Made of Record and Not Relied Upon

Applicant's attorney has reviewed the art made of record and not relied upon and believes the art made of record and not relied upon is no more relevant than the relied upon art.

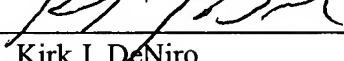
VIII. Conclusion

Based on the above, it is respectfully requested that Claims 48 and 55-57 be passed to issuance.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 501826 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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